EXCISE 74

SMITH VELMA T 05/05/82 295359 PRINTER: LI
81 BAGHDAD 1585
CONFILENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL
PAGE 01 BAGHDA 01585 101654Z
ACTION NEA-11
INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 INR-10 SS-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSCE-00
NSAE-00 SSO-00 PM-09 SSM-03 INRE-00 SSN-02 SP-02
/053 W
----------266636 101658Z /4

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY J-L. DATE 9/30/82
RDS☐or XDS☐EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS☒
DECLASSIFIED☐ RELEASABLE☐
RELEASE DENIED☒ in part
FOIA or FOI EXEMPTIONS B-1

O 101155Z JUN 81
FM USINT BAGHDAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1920
INFO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
C O N F I D E N T I A L BAGHDAD 1585
E.O. 12065: RDS-2 6/10/01 (EAGLETON, WILLIAM L.) OR-M
TAGS: PINR, MPOL, IS
SUBJ: ALLEGED IRAQI REMARKS RE USE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR
REF: A. TEL AVIV 01327 B. STATE 152771
1. (C - ENTIRE TEXT)
2. WE DO NOT HAVE A COPY OF OCTOBER 4 AL-THAWRA BUT NOW HAVE A STAFF MEMBER ARMED WITH A WRITTEN REQUEST TRYING TO LOCATE ONE AT THE NEWSPAPER'S OFFICE. MEANWHILE, WE NOTE FROM TEL AVIV REFTEL THAT THE ISRAELIS ARE HAVING TROUBLE PINNING ON SADDAM HUSSAIN A THREAT TO USE AN ATOMIC BOMB AGAINST ISRAEL THOUGH THEY HAVE FOUND SOME REMARKS ATTRIBUTED TO IRAQI OFFICIALS THAT COULD BE INTERPRETED AS WARNING THAT IRAQ AND THE ARABS WOULD AT SOME POINT HAVE A NUCLEAR COUNTER TO ISRAEL'S BOMBS. B-1
3. DURING A MEETING [redacted]
YESTERDAY IN BAGHDAD NO ONE COULD RECALL ANY OFFICIAL IRAQI THREAT TO DEVELOP A BOMB OR USE IT AGAINST ISRAEL. THE MOST OMINOUS IRAQI STATEMENT THAT WE CAN RECALL WAS CARRIED BY IRAQI NEWS AGENCY AUGUST 22, 1980, REPORTING REMARKS SADDAM HUSSAIN MADE AT A STUDENT WORK CAMP OUTSIDE BAGHDAD. EVEN THAT STATEMENT MUST BE TAKEN WITH SOME RESERVE SINCE IT WAS PICKED UP BY A REPORTER AND THEN PASSED THROUGH ARABIC TO ENGLISH. THE INA VERSION OF THAT STATEMENT WAS AS FOLLOWS. "ON THE ZIONISTS CAMPAIGN AGAINST IRAQ'S LEGAL RIGHT OF ACQUIRING NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES, PRESIDENT HUSSAIN SAID THE ZIONIST ENTITY HAS STIRRED A WORLD-WIDE FUSS ON THE ALLEGED ATOMIC BOMB IN IRAQ. (THEY (ZIONISTS) REGARD IRAQ'S SCIENTIFIC PURSUANCE AS THE MOST SERIOUS THREAT TO THEIR IMPLANTED ENTITY. PRESIDENT SADDAM HUSSAIN CONFIRMED THAT IRAQ'S GREAT EXPERIMENT 'WILL NOT BE HELD ALOFT UNTIL IT BECOMES AVAILABLE FOR THE SERVICES OF THE ARAB NATION, ITS DIGNITY, SOVEREIGNTY AND TO BE DIRECTED FOR THE LIBERATION OF PALESTINE AND NOT ON ANY OTHER PATHS'.

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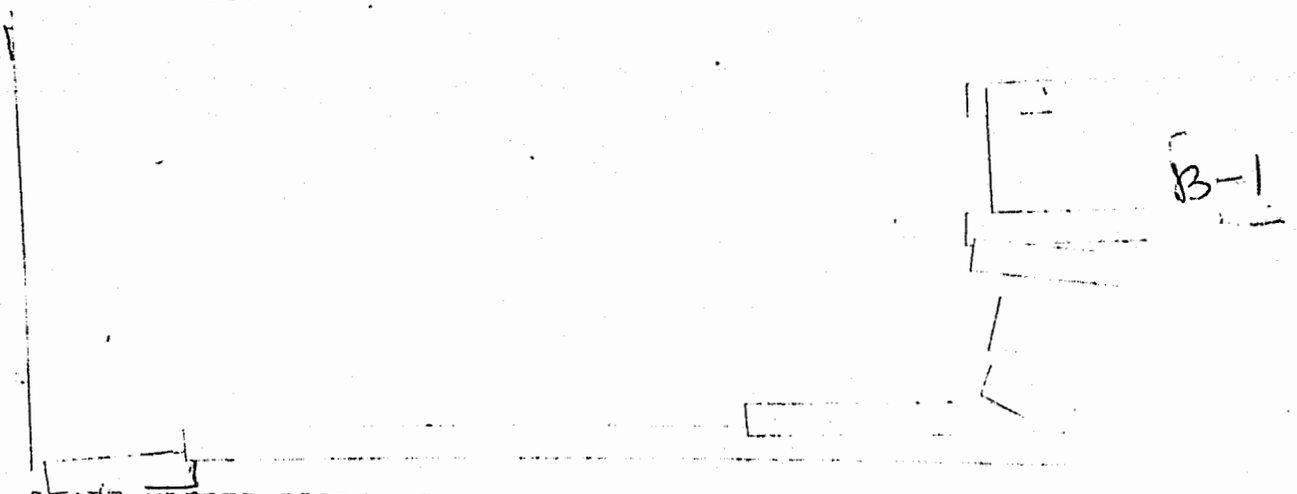
4.



5. STAFF MEMBER RETURNED FROM AL-THAWRA OFFICE HAVING

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BEEN TOLD HE COULD PICK UP OCTOBER 4 ISSUE TOMORROW,
JUNE 11. IF DEPARTMENT NEEDS TO CONSULT ITEM SOONER,
INR OR WHOEVER RECEIVES THE COPY WE SENT IN MIGHT HAVE IT.
EAGLETON
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